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RENEWED WATERBORNE RESUPPLY QUANG KHE COASTAL TRANSSHIPMENT POINT, NORTH VIETNAM 17-42N 106-24E

MISSION GS 680, 22 JANUARY 1973

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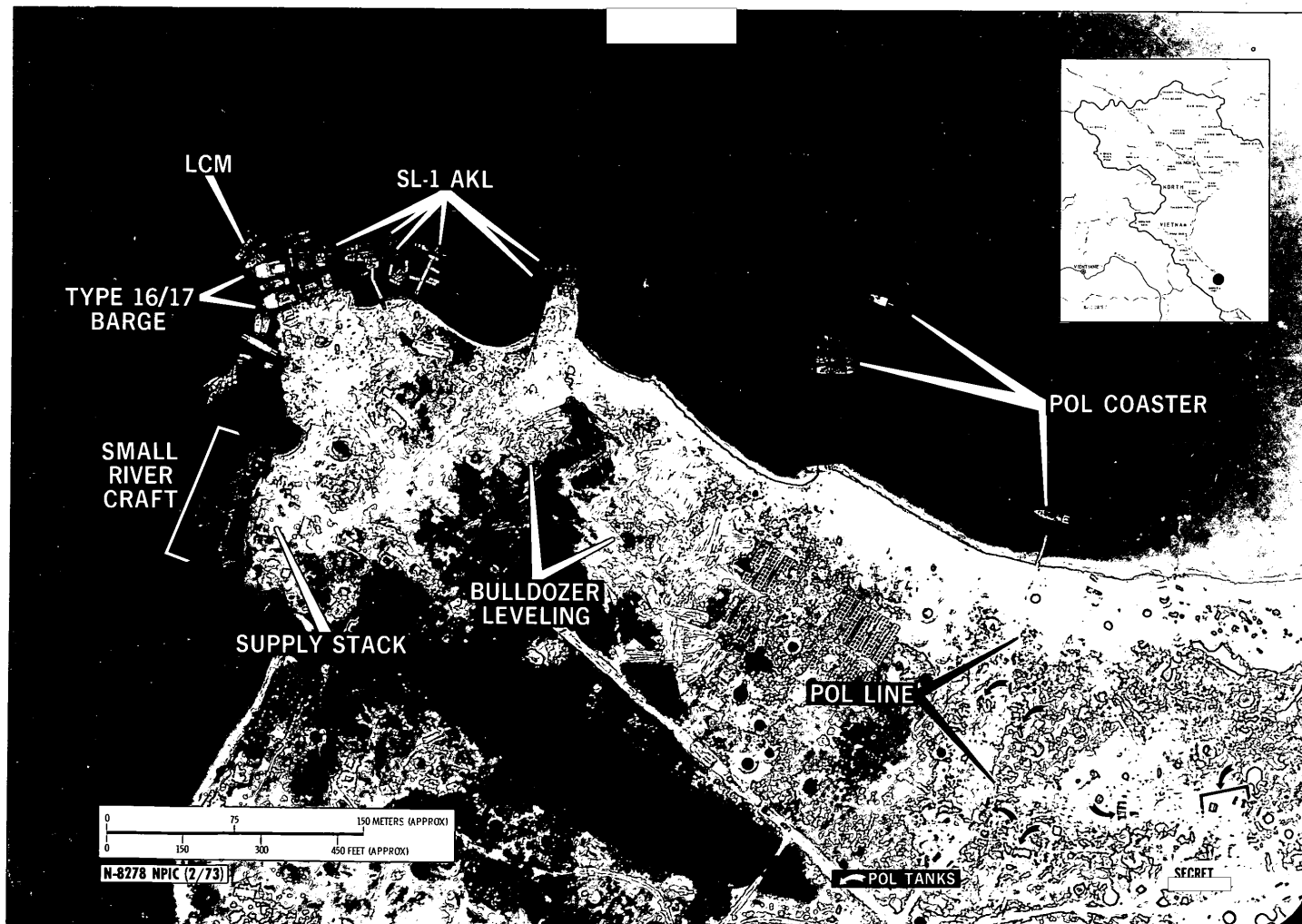


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REFERENCE TO: GS-680

RENEWED WATERBORNE RESUPPLY
QUANG KHE COASTAL TRANSSHIPMENT POINT
NORTH VIETNAM

1. SIGNIFICANCE: INCREASED CAPABILITY OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE TO MOVE SUPPLIES INTO THE PANHANDLE LOGISTIC NET BY THE REACTIVATION OF WATERBORNE RESUPPLY TO THE QUANG KHE COASTAL TRANSSHIPMENT POINT.
2. LOCATION: QUANG KHE IS LOCATED ON THE SOUTHERN COAST OF NORTH VIETNAM, APPROXIMATELY 60 NAUTICAL MILES (NM) NORTH OF THE DMZ, AT 17-42-00N 106-29-00E.
3. BACKGROUND: DURING PERIODS OF US BOMBING IN THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF NORTH VIETNAM, LOGISTICS RELATED ACTIVITY, INCLUDING VEHICLE CONVOY MOVEMENT AND COASTAL RESUPPLY WAS SELDOM OBSERVED ON PHOTOGRAPHY. EXCEPT FOR A SHORT PERIOD AT CHRISTMAS 1972, THE QUANG KHE TRANSSHIPMENT POINT HAS BEEN INACTIVE SINCE THE RENEWED BOMBING OF APRIL 1972. RESUPPLY BY COASTAL LOGISTICS CRAFT HAS NOT BEEN OBSERVED SINCE THAT TIME.

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WARNING NOTICE
Sensitive Intelligence Sources
and Methods Involved.

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4. REMARKS: THE CESSATION OF BOMBING SINCE 15 JANUARY 1973 HAS BEEN FOLLOWED BY AN OBVIOUS INCREASE IN LOGISTICS ACTIVITY IN THE PANHANDLE OF NORTH VIETNAM. LARGE AMOUNTS OF SUPPLIES HAVE BEEN MOVED SOUTHWARD BY VEHICLE AND BY WATERBORNE LOGISTICS CRAFT (WBLC). THE RENEWED ACCESSIBILITY OF QUANG KHE AND OTHER SOUTHERN COASTAL TRANSSHIPMENT POINTS TO THE NORTH VIETNAMESE LOGISTICS FLEET HAS SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED THEIR ABILITY TO RESUPPLY THE PANHANDLE LOGISTICS NET.
5. MISSION READOUT: A HIGH LEVEL OF TRANSSHIPMENT ACTIVITY WAS OBSERVED ON 22 JANUARY AT THE REACTIVATED COASTAL TRANSSHIPMENT POINT AT QUANG KHE. PERSONNEL WERE OFF-LOADING SUPPLIES FROM BARGES, COASTERS AND SMALLER WATERBORNE LOGISTICS CRAFT (WBLC) BERTHED AT THE FACILITY. TRUCKS WERE BEING LOADED FROM CARGO VESSELS AND FROM STACKS OF OFF-LOADED SUPPLIES. ONE TYPE-87 POL COASTER APPEARED TO BE CONNECTED BY HOSE/PIPELINE TO POL STORAGE TANKS. RECENT BULLDOZER SCRAPING IS APPARENT.

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VESSELS AT THE FACILITY INCLUDE TWO TYPE 16/17 BARGES, 6 SL-1 LIGHT CARGO SHIPS (AKL), 6 TYPE-87 POL COASTERS, ONE T-4 LCM, 3 UNIDENTIFIED BARGES, ONE PROBABLE TUG, AND 20 SMALL RIVER CRAFT. OTHER VESSELS OF THE LOGISTIC FLEET WERE ANCHORED IN THE SONG GIANG (RIVER) INLAND FROM THE PORT. ADDITIONAL VESSELS, INCLUDING THE NORTH VIETNAMESE MERSHIP, VIET BAO WHICH HAS RECENTLY MOVED THROUGH THE MINED HARBOR AT HAIPHONG, WERE IN COASTAL WATERS OFF QUANG KHE.

NOT SHOWN ON GRAPHIC: TRANSFER OF SUPPLIES ACROSS THE SONG GIANG (RIVER) AT THE ROUTE 1A CROSSING AT QUANG KHE WAS ALSO IN PROGRESS. ON THE NORTH BANK, SUPPLIES WERE BEING LOADED INTO SMALL WBLC. TWENTY-EIGHT CARGO TRUCKS WERE AT THE TRANSLOADING AREA. ADDITIONAL WBLC WERE MOVING BETWEEN THE NORTH AND SOUTH BANKS OF THE RIVER. THE QUANG KHE TRANSSHIPMENT POINT IS ON THE SOUTH BANK.

NOTE: ESTIMATED CAPACITY OF TYPE 16/17 BARGE IS 800 TONS; SL-1 IS 200 TONS.

ENLARGEMENT : 18X

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